

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
DATED AUGUST 10, 2004

Appln. No. 09/998,880

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December 14, 2004

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 26 through page 9, line 10, as follows:

A cell cultivation lattice 20 is supported on the support substrate 12. Preferably, cell cultivation lattice 20 is formed of a plurality of flexible filamentary members 22 interlaced with one another and with the resilient filamentary members 14 comprising the support substrate. Flexible filamentary members 22 are interlaced to form a relatively fine mesh 24 defined by relatively small interstices 26. Mesh 24 generally occupies the interstices 18 of the support substrate 12. Interstices 26 are small relative to the interstices 18 and mesh 24 provides a bed adapted for growing living cells in a two-dimensional array across the cell cultivation lattice 20 to form a substantially continuous surface of living tissue. In this example, the living tissue surface would ~~follows~~ follow the shape of the lattice 20 and form a tube usable as a graft for a coronary bypass operation.